

states, is to powder freely the affected region with iodoform and apply a dry antiseptic dressing to preserve the pustules from mechanical irritation. Under such treatment he says he has succeeded in checking the inflammatory process in twenty-four hours, the pustules being transformed into dry crusts, the redness disappearing, the glands diminishing in size, and œdema rapidly subsiding.

A Mixed Infection in Varicella.—BOLOGNINI (*La Pediatria*, 1897, No. 3, p. 76) reports a circumscribed epidemic of varicella in which twelve out of the fifteen cases showed a rare terminal complication. In all of the twelve children the disease had followed its ordinary course up to the time of desiccation of the vesicles; but then, instead of drying up, they increased in size, and at the end of twenty-four hours were changed to bullæ. A few hours later these bullæ ruptured and discharged a thick, whitish fluid, which was found to contain numerous staphylococci and some streptococci. In one case, the only one terminating fatally (abscess of the kidney), the cultures showed the streptococcus pure. All the patients had albumin in the urine, but showed no other signs of nephritis, and it disappeared at the time of desquamation. These cases confirm the observations of Hulot, Hutinel, and Labbé and others that staphylo-streptococcic infection may be a complication of varicella, and show that it may exist in nearly all the cases of a particular epidemic, though the prognosis is not ordinarily grave except in the presence of a visceral determination.

Gangrene of the Lung in Measles.—MÉRY and LORRAIN (*Société Anatomique de Paris*, March, 1897) report the case of a child of three years that died on the seventh day of measles, with signs of bronchopneumonia and fetidity of the breath. At the autopsy the left pleural sac was found to contain 200 grammes of effusion having a fetid, gangrenous odor. The lung was covered with a thick, false membrane. The lower lobe contained a wedge-shaped focus of gangrene the size of a nut; the centre was softened and contained thick, yellow pus with necrotic débris. Numerous foci of bronchopneumonia were scattered through the lungs. In the gangrenous focus there were found streptococci, a bacillus resembling the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus, and bacilli resembling morphologically the streptothrix and a large, putrefactive germ. This focus was evidently consecutive to the bronchopneumonia. The infection was through the respiratory tract, as shown by the abundance of streptococci and diphtheroid bacilli about the bronchi and surrounding the gangrenous area.

Myositis in Scarlatina.—BRUCK (*Archiv f. Kinderheilkunde*, 1897, xxi. S. 348) in a paper under this title reports three cases of non-complicated scarlatina in children, eight to fourteen years of age, in whom, fifteen to twenty-one days after the appearance of the eruption, there appeared muscular pains analogous to muscular rheumatism. Their appearance was marked by a rise of temperature to 100° or 101°, affecting the muscles of the back(?) and of the thighs in one case, the muscles of the thorax in another, and those of the upper extremities, of the abdomen, and of the loins in the third. In all three there was corresponding functional disturbance (immobility of the

limbs and trunk, contraction of the abdominal walls) and dyspnœa in the case in which the thoracic muscles were involved. There was no articular pain, and the condition yielded promptly to the use of salicylate of sodium continued for several days.

Thrombosis of the Veins of Galen following Scarlatina.—GOODALL (*Royal Society of Medicine and Surgery*, March 23, 1897) reports the case of a girl, eight years of age, who on the eleventh day of scarlatina had convulsions, followed in a few hours by general rigidity and coma. The temperature reached 107° before death. No albumin could be detected in the urine. The autopsy showed thrombus in the veins of Galen and the right lateral sinus. The choroid plexuses were covered with a thick coating of fresh lymph. The optic tracts showed red softening. The ears were normal, and but slight ulceration of the tonsils was present.

Fatty Degeneration of the Liver in the Gastro-enteritis of Nurslings.—THIEMICH (*Fiegler's Beiträge zur Pathologische Anatomie*, 1896, vol. xx.) records the results of histological examination of the liver in thirty-two nurslings that had succumbed to acute or chronic gastro-enteritis, in the service of Professor Czerny. With the exception of one child, two and one-half years old, all the subjects were less than a year old.

In all of the cases the examination showed the existence of fatty degeneration which, according to the lesion, presented three distinct forms. In the first class (nine cases), where the lesion was least marked, the organ had preserved its form, its consistence, and its normal size. The fatty infiltration was slight, and the fatty droplets, few in number, were found ordinarily at the periphery of the acini; the nuclei of hepatic cells took the staining well.

In the second group of twenty cases the liver was either increased in size or of normal dimensions. The infiltration, more marked than in the preceding group, occupied ordinarily the periphery of the acini; fat-droplets were found in the interior of the hepatic cells, where they replaced almost entirely the protoplasm and pushed the nucleus aside. In other cases, much more rarely, the infiltration was particularly marked about the ventral vein; the nuclei of the hepatic cells were pale and scarcely took staining.

In the third group (three cases), where the fatty degeneration had attained a maximum, the lesions were the same as have been described in the fatty liver. The organ was usually increased in size and soft in consistence. In preparations stained with osmic acid the whole field was occupied by large drops of fat in close juxtaposition, the normal structure being almost completely effaced. In the few cells partially preserved in structure the fat-drops were surrounded by a narrow border of protoplasm, and the nuclei were pale and crowded to the periphery of the cells. The nuclei of the connective tissue were deeply stained. In no part were healthy liver-cells encountered.

According to the author, the condition was not a simple infiltration, but a true fatty degeneration produced by the toxins elaborated in the intestine.

Employment of Thyroid Extract in Pædiatrics.—DOBROWSKY (*Archiv f. Kinderheilkunde*, Bd. xxi. S. 54) describes his observations in the treatment